consumption upto 9999 units which a domestic consumer is not likely to exceed in a period of four months.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) of the question.

Laying of Underground Transmission Lines by DESU

36. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DESU propose to remove all the overhead transmission lines and to lay them underground to prevent theft, breakdown, etc. of power;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) by when the work of laying underground transmission lines would begin; and

(d) the areas in which the work is to be completed during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) In view of the enormous expenditure involved and the resource constraints, DESU has no proposal for the present to convert the existing overhead system to underground system.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to parts (a) to (c) of the question.

Coal Production in the Country

37. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what was the coal production in the country during the last six months up to the 31st July, 1991 as compared to corresponding period last year;

(b) what were the despatches of coal during the same period indicating the increase in million tonnes and also percentage wise to defferent sectors *i.e.* power, steel, etc. in the country; and

(c) what further steps Government have taken or proposed to take to increased production of coal during the current year as compared to last two years in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDAR): (a) Coal production in the country during February-July 1990 and February-July 1991 was 101.06 million tonnes and 113.8 million tonnes respectively.

(b) The information is given below:—

(million tonnes)

Sector	Despatches (including washerymiddlings)			
	Feb—July, 1990	Feb—July, 1991	Increase	% age increase
Power	60·33	65·10	+4·77	+7·9
Steel	11·52	12·80	+1·28	+18·1
Cement	4·45	3·01	+0·36	+7·7
Others	25·40	28·47	+3.07	+12·1
TOTAL	101·90	111·38	+9·48	+9·3